5. Mizoram - The tribal areas of the State - Phased separation of judiciary has already been taken up by constituting separate Judicial Service and separate Courts buildings.

6. Nagaland - The whole of the state - The State Government decided on 05.7.94 to separate the judiciary from executive and steps are being taken to implement the decision.

Protection of Life of Fishermen

656. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Government policy to protest the lives of the fishermen going in for deep sea-fishing; and

(b) the steps taken to protect them from this danger?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The policy of the Government envisages protection of the fishing community from the vagaries of the climate and accidents through various suitable measures. In pursuance of the above policy following measures have been taken by the Government to protect the lives of the Fishermen Community :

(i) Under the Merchant Shipping Act 1958, as amended in 1987, every Indian fishing vessel when going to sea from any port or place in India, is required to be provided :

- if the vessel is of twenty-four metres or more in length and is operating beyond the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade I and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel is of twenty-four metres or more in length and is operating within the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel is of less than twenty-four metres in length and is operating beyond the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel.
- if the vessel is less than twenty-four metres in length and is operating within the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II.
- if the vessel has a propulsion power of 750 KW or more, with at least one engineer of a fishing vessel, who shall be designated as chief engineer and one engine driver of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel has a propulsion power of 350 KW or more but less than 750 KW, with at least one engineer of a fishing vessel who shall be designated as chief engineer;
- if the vessel has a propulsion power of less than 350 KW, with at least one engine driver of a fishing vessel who shall be designated as engineer-in-charge.

(ii) It has been made mandatory for all fishing vessels plying in or proceeding to sea, to have the prescribed life saving appliances and fire fighting appliances.

(iii) The Indian Meteorological Department has a well established organisational set up for observing, detecting, tracking and forecasting cyclones and issuing cyclone warnings whenever a cyclonic storm develops in the sea

Gangotri Glacier Belt

657. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report of recent survey by the Environmental Scientists captioned "Perennial Gangotri to Perish, predicts survey", appearing in 'Pioneer', dated November 1, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any action plan to arrest the process of weathering of the Gangotri Clacier belt; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Environmental Clearance

658. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to

empower the State Governments to grant environmental clearance;

(b) if so, whether any norms have been prescribed for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the guidelines issued to the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Modalities for delegation of powers to State Governments for according environmental clearance to power projects are under finalisation.

Inclusion of Certain Communities in the STs List

659. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) the details of the requests received from the State Governments for inclusion of some more Tribes in the list of Scheduled Tribes during the current year;

(b) action taken by the Government of India on each of such request;

(c) whether Sagaras of Visakhapatnam District had also demanded for including them in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the action taken or being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Recommendations have been received during the current year from the State Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu for the inclusion of two communities as Scheduled Tribes.

(b) These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

(c) Representations have been received for the inclusion of Uppara (Sagara) community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) These representations are being considered in consultation, inter-alia, with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Drug Addicts

660. SHRI R. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of drug addicts registered in the Welfare Centres in the year 1994-95 in comparison to 1986-87;

(b) the reasons for enormous increase of the drug addicts; and

(c) the strategy proposed for the prohibition and drug prevention?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) According to the available information, the number of drug addicts registered with the Drug Deaddiction/Counselling/Rehabilitation Centres, financially assisted by the Ministry of Welfare, during the year 1994-95 in 376 Centres was 3,12,118 as compared to 1627 in 7 Centres in 86-87.

(b) The increase in the number of drug addicts registered with the Deaddiction/Counselling Centres over the years can largely be attributed to the manifold increase in the number of Centres and the positive impact of awareness generated by the programmes of prohibition and drug abuse prevention implemented by the Government which has motivated more and more drug addicts to come forward for treatment.

In the absence of any nation wide survey with regard to the extent to the drug abuse problem in the country, it is difficult to establish that the number of drug addicts is increasing in the country. However, different studies undertaken indicate an increasing trend in drug abuse.

Peer Group pressures, curiosity, industrialisation/urbanisation, mounting tension, weakness of the joint family system are some of the apparent reasons which have rendered individuals vulnerable to social maladjustments and deviance such as alcoholism and drug abuse.

(c) The Ministry is implementing the Scheme for Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention since 1985-86 wherein financial assistance is given to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for running Drug Awareness Counselling and Assistance Centres and De-Addiction-cum-rehabilitation Centres. This Ministry is strengthening the awareness buiding, preventive education programmes for drug demand reduction and expand Counselling, De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centres.

India Eco-development Project

661. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Ministe of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) the progress made under the proposed Worl Bank aided India Eco-development Project, so far;

(b) whether there is a controversy among the expert over planning, implementation and formulation c objectives of the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps propose to be taken by the Government to resolve th controversy?